- Confidentials

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES:

OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.

Received up to 4th September, 1879.

POLITICAL.

The armies of the native chiefs and the London in the London Times, on the question of the reduction of the armies of native

chiefs, and remarks that if any danger were apprehended from the armies of native chiefs, the Government of India, which is undoubtedly better informed on the subject than the Times, would never allow the native chiefs to maintain their armies. There is no doubt that the united forces of the native chiefs number three hundred thousand strong, but they are generally neither well disciplined nor well equipped: Had the editor of the Times come to India and personally visited them, he would have been surprised to see in what a bad state they really were. Not more than one-fourth of them can be considered to be well disciplined. The native troops have no good commanders, except the Maharaja Sindhia, and his loyalty to the paramount power is well known. Moreover, a union is impossible among the native chiefs owing to differ-

Circulation, 600 copies: ences of language and religion. To our thinking the armies of the native chiefs are a source of strength and not of weakness to the Government, as has lately been proved in the late Afghan war. The native States keep their armies in accordance with their treaty stipulations with the Government. Does the Times mean that the Government should set aside those stipulations? Since the Maharaja Sindhia reviewed his troops before His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, they have become an eye-sore to our contemporary. Our contemporary says that according to treaty stipulations the Maharaja Sindhia can keep only five thousand troops, but that he maintains an army twenty-two thousand strong. No man can believe that the Maharaja could have the courage to violate his treaty with the Government under its very eyes.

Circulation, 500 copies.

The Sumachar Sar (the Bengali paper of Allahabad) of the 1st September states that in time The native chiefs and the Anglo-Indian newspapers. of war or difficulty the native chiefs voluntarily offer to assist the Government with men and money, and their loyalty is readily acknowledged by the Government. When a native chief commits an offence, the Government of India at once threatens him, and he is terrified. Some of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries are, in their excess of loyalty, always ready to pick holes in the coats of native chiefs. Whenever a native chief does anything wrong, they exaggerate his faults, and propose his deposition from the throne. The Englishman, the Pioneer, and the Bombay Gazette are the ring-leaders of the class of newspapers in question, and are especially hostile to the States of Gwalior, Haidara-When some years ago the Maharaja bad, and Kashmir. Sindhia went to Bengal and forgot to pay a visit to the Lieutenant-Governor of that province, they doubted his loyalty, and raised a loud clamour against him. The London Times suggested that he should be called upon to give an explanation of his misconduct. The Proneer would not be satisfied with anything short of his deposition. When Sir Salar Jang lately went to England, and was received with

great respect by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and other great personages, and the leading English newspapers rang with his praises, the Pioneer and other Anglo-Indian newspapers condemned the conduct of the English nobility, and charged the English newspapers with having been bribed. Our Anglo-Indian contemporaries were greatly dissatisfied, when, at the late Delhi Assemblage, the Government of India bestowed upon Sir Salar a silver medal like the one given to Maulvi Abdul Latif Khan, the deputy magistrate of Calcutta. Now the Maharaja of Kashmir has incurred their displeasure. A famine has unfortunately broken out in Kashmir. Many of the inhabitants of the Happy Valley, who are not accustomed to such visitations, immediately succumbed to the calamity. The Maharaja has engaged the services of a number of doctors to treat the sick, and imported a large quantity of grain from British territories for the relief of the famine-stricken. But in spite of all his efforts to save the lives of his people, our Anglo-Indian contemporaries contend that he should be deposed from the throne. When a famine occurred in Orissa in the time of Mr. Beadon, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, several hundred thousands of men died like dogs and jackals for want of food, and during the last year, according to the Statesman, five hundred thousand men perished from starvation in the North-Western Provinces alone, and a large number in the Madras Presidency. No punishment was inflicted apon Mr. Beadon, and Sir George Couper and the Duke of Buckingham still hold their offices. However, the Maharaja of Kashmir should be dethroned.

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NATIVE STATES.

The Jodhpur correspondent of the Agra Akhbar of the Jodhpur.

28th August states that an insurrection has taken place in Godwar and Jallor, in Jodhpur. The Maharaja has sent his whole army under the personal command of Maharaj Kishor Singh, the commander-in-chief, to suppress the rebellion. It is rumoured that

Circulation, 225 copies. the Maharaja has received a letter from the commanderin-chief stating that the whole Bhil, Mena, and Bawar
tribes are in arms, and that the tribes will probably commit
robberies and outrages in the State. The Maharaja has accordingly removed his wives and all his valuable property to
the fort. Rumour is also affoat that the insurgents have
carried away eight bullocks from the artillery of the Maharaja
at Jallor, and have burnt the villages that supplied the army
with provisions. Maharaj Partap Singh, the prime minister,
and the political agent, have now proceeded to the scene of
the disturbance.

Circulation, 175 copies.

The Bharat Bandhu of the 23th August states that it would seem that some Europeans do The famine administranot approve of the famine administration of the Maharaja of Kashmir. tion of the Maharaja of Kashmir. To say nothing of the Pioneer, which is habitually hostile to the natives, the Civil and Military Gazette and some other Anglo-Indian newspapers condemn the measures adopted by the Maharaja for the relief of his famine-striken subjects as inadequate. But, judging from our knowledge of the character of the Maharaja, we are convinced that he must have spared no pains to relieve the distress of the sufferers. If in spite of his efforts his subjects were subjected to some distress from famine, what country is there where the people do not suffer on such occasions? A courtier of the Maharaja has contributed a letter to the Civil and Military Gazette, which clearly shows that the Maharaja is not at all to blame. Owing to the physical obstacles grain could not be quickly imported into Kashmir. Some of the Maharaja's officers also were guilty of carelessness, and they have been severely punished by him.

Oirculation, 57 copies. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Almora Akhbár of the 1st September says that it is a matter of great satisfaction that the admission of natives into Government has after a long time the civil service.

The new rules about the matter of great satisfaction that the admission of natives into Government has after a long time redeemed its pledge about the admission.

sion of natives into the higher grades of the public service,

The Government of India lately framed some rules about the admission of natives into the covenanted civil service, and those rules have already been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. It is difficult to say how far the natives will be benefited by the new scheme, until it is put into practice. At all events it is certain that the Government has made up its mind to appoint natives to offices of trust and responsibility. The greater employment of natives into the public service recoinmends itself on two grounds: first, that it is an economical measure; secondly, that it is based on a just recognition of the claims of the natives to share in the administration of their country. We are very thankful to Lord Lytton that he has fulfilled the promise which he made at the late Delhi Assemblage. His name will always be remembered by the natives in connection with the new scheme in question. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the Government has not withheld the advantages of the new scheme from old native officers. They are not precluded from admission into the civil service by the limit of age or any other condition. In the end the writer publishes a vernacular translation of the new civil service rules.

The Oudh Akhbár of the 29th August publishes a com-

The new rules about the

admission of natives into

the civil service.

municated article, in which the writer says that Lord Lytton takes a deep interest in the welfare of the natives.

He does not court popularity, but does what is really beneficial for them, even though it may be unpleasant. The Press Act is a sufficient proof of this. The writer then refers to the new rules about the admission of natives into the civil service, and expresses his gratitude to Lord Lytton. One-sixth of the recruits appointed every year will be natives, and the pay of the native civilians will be two-thirds that of Europeans. The pay of the former has been fixed at a lower rate than that of the latter, because the latter are foreigners, and consequently their expenses are greater than those of natives. The writer expresses his concurrence with the *Hindu Putriot*.

Circulation, 719 copies,



in thinking that the appointments should be made by competition and not by nomination. However, the writer contends that an exemption should be made in favour of old and experienced native officers, who are in every way fitted to hold offices of trust and responsibility, but are unable to pass any examination on account of their advanced age.

Circulation, 500 copies.

The Samáchár Sár (the Bengali paper of Allahabad)

The new rules about the admission of natives into the new rules, lately published by the the civil service.

Government of India, about the ad-

mission of natives into the covenanted civil service, remarks that instead of framing these rules it would be better to increase the limit of age for the candidates to the civil service examination from 19 to 21 years, as was formerly the case. The writer is afraid that no great good will accrue from the new rules for several reasons. First, that although it is provided in Victoria 33, chapter 6, that local Governments are to nominate able persons for admission into the civil service, there is no reason to expect that they will depart on this occasion from their usual practice of bestowing their favours on their favourites, whether they are fit or unfit. It is well known that the Bengal Government appoints any man it pleases to the office of. deputy collector. If a man, however able he may be, has no interest with the Government, he can never get the office of deputy collector. The same system of patronage is in vogue in every province. Secondly, the candidates appointed under the new rules are to be under probation for two years. They will be placed as probationers under European civilians, and their dismissal from, or retention in, the service will obviously depend upon the reports which the latter will make about them to the local Government after two years. Thus they will be absolutely at the tender mercies of the Eu-The Europeans are the conquerors, and we ropean civilians. the conquered. It is difficult to realise that they will like to see us placed on a footing of equality with them.

scheme will be specially unwelcome to the European civilians. They have to pass an examination, are exposed to the disadvantages of expatriation, and have to bear the hot climate of India. What must be their state of feeling when they see natives admitted into the civil service without being required to pass any examination at all? Under these circumstances it is not difficult to imagine what kind of reports the European civilians will be induced to make to the local Government in regard to the probationers. Thirdly, according to the fourth rule of the new civil service rules, the local Government can at any time, with the permission of the Government of India, dismiss any native civilian, appointed under the rules in question, from the service; but no civilian who enters the service in the ordinary course through the competitive system, can be dismissed without the permission of the Secretary of State. Moreover, the pay of native civilians will be two-thirds that of the Europeans. Hence it is evident that the new rules are what the European civilians would wish them to be. To crown all the term "natives" has been extended to Europeans and Eurasians who are permanently domiciled in India.

The Sofir-i-Hind of the 29th August says: We have received many communications from our correspondents regarding the license tax. They regret that Lord Lytton has revived the tax which his predecessor Lord Northbrook so generously abolished. They complain that the tax presses very severely upon the people, as they are suffering from the prevalence of famine and sickness, and the depression of trade. Although the natives, who are the faithful subjects of Her Majesty, do not object to the payment to the tax, His Excellency the Viceroy should consider the distress which at present prevails among them.

The Hindi Pradip for September states that some persons
The natives and the object to the admission of natives into
public service.

the higher grades of the public service

Circulation, 170 copies.

Circulation, 180 copies.



on the ground that they are generally corrupt, deceitful, and untruthful. But this charge is utterly unfounded. The conduct of the native judicial officials has proved that the natives possess moral qualities, such as honesty, &c., at least in an equal degree with the Europeans. European officers sometimes act unjustly to natives in cases against their own countrymen, but native officials never show any partiality. The Government has on several occasions publicly declared that the native judicial officers perform their duties very satisfactorily. If the natives do judicial work satisfactorily, what reason is there to suppose that they will not do executive and revenue work equally satisfactorily? There is no doubt that the higher the offices to which the natives are promoted, the greater will be their progress in good moral qualities. A native officer is fully convinced that if he commit an illegal act he will undoubtedly be punished, and cannot escape punishment by going to Europe like Europeans. It is not just to condemn natives as unfit to hold offices of trust and responsibility without giving them a fair trial.

The same paper complains that nepotism prevails in all Nepotism in public offices. It is very difficult for educated natives to obtain a footing in any Government office, which is a great discouragement to them.

The same paper makes some cynical remarks on passing Cynical remarks on events, in the form of questions and passing events.

answers, some of which are as follows:—

What is paradise? Europe.

What is the result of committing great sins? To be born a native of India.

Who are the greatest sinners? The editors of vernacular newspapers.

Who is the greatest enemy of the natives? The Pioneer.

Who are the ornaments of India? The ignorant and menterprising native chiefs and noblemen.

Who obtains the greatest benefit from trade and commerce? The weavers of Manchester, who realise ten times the proper price of their goods from the natives.

The Rahlar-i-Hind of the 1st September, in regard to the case of Munshi Sher Singh, the mun-The munsif of Zafruwal. sif of Zafruwal, Sialkot, remarks that Sialkot. the views it expressed in a late issue (see page 647 of the Selections for the week ending the 21st August, 1879), have been confirmed by further communications received from a special correspondent. Munshi Sher Singh is a well educated and honest man. In all suits between the poor cultivators and the extortionate money-lenders he sympathises with the former, and does not decree compound interest charged by the latter against them. The money-lenders are, therefore, displeased with him, and have brought false charges against him, in order that he may be transferred to some other place. The way in which they secured signatures to the memorial, which they have submitted to the deputy commissioner against him, was that they first obtained by fraud signatures on a blank sheet of paper, and afterwards wrote the memorial. memorial which the zamindars and cultivators have prepared in favour of the munsif is signed by all the zeldars and lambardars of the pargana. The writer considers that Munshi Brij Nath, the tahsildar of Zafruwal, has instigated the money-lenders against the munsif in a great measure. for his assistance they would not have the courage to bring such false charges against a respectable Government officer like the munsif. The tahsildar is a very quarrelsome man. He was transferred from Gurdaspur because he had created many enemies there. He bears an ill-will towards the munsif. According to the orders of Government he receives one civil suit every day. Formerly he used to send his

Circulation, 475 copies. muharrir to the munsif's court, where he steed at the door, and selected a petition which he considered would suit his master well. The munsif ascertained the reason why the tahsildar selected petitions in this way, and reported the matter to the deputy commissioner. The deputy commissioner ordered that the munsif should receive all the petitions, and send one of them to the tahsildar. This is one of the causes of the enmity which exists between the tahsildar and the munsif. It is rumoured that the munsif has been temporarily transferred to Diska, and the tahsildar to Pisror, until inquiries are made into the charges brought against the former by the money-lenders.

EDUCATION.

Circulation, 150 copies.

A correspondent of the Qaisar-ul-Akhbar of the 31st August, writing from Ghazipur, states The school masters of vernacular schools, Ghathat in the time of Munshi Gohar Ali, zipur. the late deputy inspector of schools, in the Ghazipur district, who has been appointed to a respectable post in Dharbhanga, the vernacular schools of the district made great progress, and the district used to head the list at the annual departmental examinations, through his indefatigable exertions. His services were acknowledged by the Government with a substantial reward. The present incumbent, instead of adhering to the educational policy of his predecessor, upset it as soon as he assumed charge of the new office, and the result was that the result of the annual examination in the same year was very unsatisfactory. wished to make scapegoats of the unfortunate school masters, But as summary and to dismiss all, of them summarily. dismissals would incur great public opprobrium, he proposed that all the school masters should be examined with a view of testing their abilities, and that those who did not pass the examination, should be dismissed. On this those school masters who had been educated at the normal school, Benares, and had passed good examinations, objected to their being

subjected to a new examination. When the matter reached the notice of the inspector-general of schools, he opposed the proposal of the deputy inspector, and the collector of Ghazipur and the secretary to the school committee also concurred with him. But the deputy inspector cunningly won the joint magistrate of Balia to his side, and an examination of the school masters of the whole district was held at Balia on the 24th of August. Many school masters did not appear at the examination, since they were unable to prepare themselves for the examination, as the notice given to them was very short. They also knew that the questions would be very difficult, and they were convinced that the deputy inspector had already made up his mind to dismiss them in any case. They memorialised the joint magistrate of Balia to exempt them from the examination, but he did not accede to their wishes. They have now appealed to the collector of Ghazipur. It is rumoured that the joint magistrate of Balia has already dismissed them, and wishes to appoint the favourites of the deputy inspector in their places. The writer hopes that the Government will take the case of the school masters, who have been unjustly dismissed, into its favourable conaideration. there exist Some attended in a cold

POST-OFFICE:

A correspondent of the Qaisor-ul-Akhbur of the 31st AuPostal arrangements, gust, writing from Chhatarpur, comChhatarpur. plains that the postal arrangements in
that State are very unsatisfactory. The post-office of the
State is under the management of the Government. One
harkara is appointed to distribute letters in four parganas.
He takes one week for distribution in each pargana, and,
therefore, the letters intended for the last pargana are delayed
one month. Even the former system, when letters were distributed by the chaprasis of the State, was not so dilatory as the
present one. Moreover, the writer complains that the Rani
and the superintendent of the State are not on good terms
with each other.

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Circulation, 150 copies.



LOCAL.

Circulation, 650 copies.

A correspondent of the Aftab-i-Panjab of the 29th August, The police of Tarantarn, writing from Tarantaran, complains that at the late fair held at that place Amritsar. the local police assisted the thieves and pick-pockets in carrying on their vile trade. The body of the Amritsar police, which was sent to Tarantaran, was very energetic and vigilent in watching the property of the people. The local police should be transferred to some other place.

Circulation, 90 copies.

The publication of books by Munshi Indar Mal in condemnation of the Muhammadan religion, Mo-

radabad.

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The Loh-i-Mahfuz, Moradabad, of the 29th August, states that some years ago Munshi Indar Mal started a printing press at Moradabad, and published some books in condemnation of the Muhammadan

religion, which created great excitement among the Musalman community of the town, and a quarrel was about to break out between the Hindus and the Musalmans. But Maulvi Muhammad Ali, the tahsildar of Balari, immediately published some books in refutation of the attacks made by Munshi Indar Mal against the Muhammadan religion, and Munshi Indar Mal stopped his press. In this way the indignation of the Muhammadan community was appeared. Munshi Indar Mal has again written some books in condemnation of the Muhammadan religion, and is about to publish them. The district officers should prohibit the publication of the books, lest they should lead to a quarrel between the two sects of the community.

[A new monthly vernacular paper, entitled the Thirteenth Century (Hijra), has been started by the editor of the Agra Akhbár. It will be wholly devoted to criticising the religious and social reforms advocated by the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan through the Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq.]

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20	Qaisar-ul-Akhbar	Allahabad,	Ditto	•	Ditto .	Sir	Siraj-ud-din Ahmad	°.	31st	•	. 2	*	1	150	
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23	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar	Bhawalpur	Ditto	:	Ditto	Ata	Ata-ul-la	- a - :	25th	:	" Te	respectively.	-	150	
4.00	Safir-i-Hind Samachar Sar	Amritsar, Allahabad,	Ditto Bengali	::	Ditto Ditto	Revd. 1	Rajab Ali pal Chack	ar- Septr.	29th r. 1st	::	Septr.	3rd	::	170	2.2
56	56 Shola-i-Túr 57 Sohail Hind	Cawnpore, Meerut	Urdu Ditto	111	Ditto	Haidar Kamta	wati. aidar Ali amta Prasad	Augt.	26th &		,, 4th lugt. 30th tember	& Se 4tl		200	•••

	Benares	Ditto	. Ditto	Babu	Bhutnath Septr. 1st	Septr		Septr. 3rd	3rd	•	C	:	_
Tairhwin Saddi A	agra	Ditto	Monthly	•	:	For	For the month of September.	of jo	4th	:		:	
A O	Akola Dhar	Marathi Ditto	 Weekly Ditto	Kishan Chan	n Chand Shaskar	Augt. 23rd 25th		Augt. 29th	. 29th		200	8 8	52.2°C S
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The 8th September, 1879.

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